

Updated TSANZ COVID-19 Vaccination recommendations for Transplant Recipients

This statement has been developed by the TSANZ, the peak representative body of transplantation professionals in Australia and New Zealand as a guide for transplant recipients following statements from the <u>Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation</u> (ATAGI) and the <u>New Zealand Ministry of Health</u> on COVID-19 vaccination.

TSANZ recommends that all transplant, or potential transplant recipients be advised to undergo a primary course of COVID vaccinations with recommended booster doses, as per ATAGI and the NZ Ministry of Health.

- Additionally transplant patients should be advised that:
 - COVID vaccination may not always prevent infection but is likely to reduce the severity of disease and risk of dying from infection as well as reducing the chance of spreading to others.
 - A transplant recipient who does develop COVID should notify their transplant specialist/team promptly given the increased risks. They may also be eligible for additional therapies that may improve their outcomes.
 - Hand washing, mask wearing and physical distancing remain important measures to reduce infection in high risk settings.

If you have a specific question or concern regarding COVID vaccination, we suggest that you contact your specialist or transplant unit for advice, because local conditions and advice may vary across Australia and New Zealand.